

Massachusetts Water Resources Commission

Meeting Minutes for Thursday December 10, 1998

Commission Members in Attendance:

Jan Reitsma	Acting Secretary, Executive Office of Environmental Affairs
Mark P. Smith	Executive Director, Water Resources Commission
Peter Webber	Commissioner, Department of Environmental Management
Arleen O'Donnell	Designee, Department of Environmental Protection
Karen Pelto	Designee, Department of Fisheries, Wildlife & Environmental Law Enforcement
Richard Butler	Public Member
Gary Clayton	Public Member
David Rich	Public Member
Frank Veale	Public Member
Bob Zimmerman	Public Member

Others in Attendance:

Mike Gildesgame	DEM
Michele Cobban Barden	NepRWA
Jennifer Liner	NepRWA
Gretchen Roorbach	MWRA
Richard Thibedeau	DEM
Nina Danforth	DEM/OWR
Jon Beekman	Earth Tech
Lysa Leland	Cape Ann Sustainable Communities

Agenda Item #1: Executive Director's Report:

New Member of WRC: David Rich is the Operations Manager for the Mashpee Water District, and will be representing municipal water suppliers. Trudy Coxe is no longer the Secretary of EOEA: The position has not been filled, Senator Durand is the proposed candidate and Jan Reitsma is now acting secretary.

Meetings of Interest:

- (1) MWRA "inflow and infiltration" meeting with the south systems community, was a success and may be repeated in the north systems.
- (2) Neponset River Watershed Association held a meeting for the starting communities budget project, concerning balancing and demands and generating effective techniques for water of Neponset.
- (3) NEWWA meeting at which Mark Smith will be presenting new draft performance standards and the DEP will discuss screening documents.

Agenda Item #2: Presentation: Proposed 1999 WRC Work Plan

Smith briefly summarized possible topics for WRC 1999 work schedule as a starting point to frame current and upcoming issues and to generate ideas.

- **Developing a State-wide Monitoring Framework:** Arleen O'Donnell was in support of the proposed list with emphasis being placed on the last two topics. For developing a state-wide monitoring framework, budget would have to be a major consideration, due to the need for new resources. Also, an update on the status of the project was requested for next meeting.
- **Identifying Stressed Subwatersheds:** In developing the methodology for identifying stressed subwatersheds, O'Donnell pointed out it may be difficult to agree on members for that task group. Also, formulation should be designed to identify stressed basin areas and numerically rank the stress basins based on stream flow. Further suggestions were made on this idea: identifying varying stresses, and exploring biological ways to identify stress.
- **Simplify Regulatory Applications:** Support was given for making the regulation and analysis of water supply development more comprehensive and clearer. Mark Smith proposed starting with application and focus on where the processes need to be simplified. It was suggested that there are too many varying processes of water analysis, and merging them would be more efficient.
- **MWRA Expansion:** A third issue that was discussed was to work with the MWRA as they develop policies concerning future expansion of their service area and use of resources.

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Minutes approved 3/11/99